

Pipeline Committee
Minutes of August 4, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 3 pm.

Attendance. Pipeline Committee: Len Freeman, Walter Norton, Patricia McGovern, Rick Daniel, and Kay Ogrodnik; Kristi Eiane (Town Administrator); representatives from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection: Ted Wolfe and Naji Akladis; representatives from the Navy Facilities Engineering Command, Mid-Atlantic: Matthew Kurtz (Real Estate Contracting Officer), James Spoto (Project Manager); Navy contractor: Steve Reiland of Fay, Spofford & Thorndike.

The minutes of February 19, 2009 were reviewed, corrected and approved.

Old Business. none .

New Business.

The meeting was turned over to the Navy for an update. Matthew Kurtz provided the Town with copies of the recently completed Environmental Assessment and the Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI). He then reviewed a handout showing progress and a revised schedule. Selection of a contractor is now anticipated in September. While some dates have slipped, the completion of pipe removal remains the Fall of 2010.

Discussion followed. MEDEP needs an Environmental Baseline Study from the contractor before the pipes can be removed. Mr. Kurtz and Mr. Akladis will coordinate to assure the needed information is available. The Navy has received the necessary permits from both the Army Corps of Engineers and the Maine DEP.

Once the contractor is selected he will have approx 30 days to prepare a work plan and an environmental baseline. MEDEP will require an additional 30 days to review those documents. Once approved, removal can begin and the contractor has one year from that date to complete the project.

Nothing in the contract prohibits nighttime construction work. It is hoped that if nighttime work is necessary, the contractor will request mutual consent of the Navy and the Town.

There were discussions about the appropriate time for the public meeting with abutters. The Committee felt it would be most useful to hold it during the period when MEDEP is reviewing the contractor's work plan. That way concerns raised at the public hearing could be reflected in the plan. The committee believes that having a copy of the work plan for public review in advance of the meeting would be helpful. Mr. Kurtz will see if his Command has any objections.

A draft letter prepared by the Navy was reviewed. The letter is intended to provide pipeline abutters with information on the construction process, including their obligations

with regard to obstacles in the right of way. Several changes and additions were suggested. Mr. Freeman agreed to consolidate them and provide them to the Navy for consideration.

Mr. Kurtz said it would be possible to release the easements directly to the property owners without making the Town a party to the transfer.

In summation:

- The end date for pipeline removal remains Fall 2010
- Release of easements and project completion remains 2011
- Release of easements will not involve the Town

Action items:

- Date for public meeting will be determined following contractor selection
- Navy will consider providing a copy of the work plan to the Town prior to public meeting
- Committee will provide consolidated comments on draft Navy letter

Next meeting. The next meeting of the Committee will be at the call of the co-chairs.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.